

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

ASSAY DEPARTMENT.

September 21, 1888.

Sir

Referring to the letter of the Director of the Mint of the 15th Inst. in which reference is made to errors in charges imposed on gold deposits, I would say that in regard to deposit No. 501 - Assay 587, the charge imposed was 3 cents ~~and~~ for the reason that there was not over 100 parts of base metal, The actual fineness being Gold 686.8, base metal 100. Silver 213.2, As it is not customary to report to the half thousandth the silver contained in gold, the half was dropped, and the silver reported at 213.0 Gold 686½

"Deposit No 505 Assay No. 643" is an error, it should be Deposit 545 Assay 643

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the charge of which should be three cents per ounce, as stated in the letter.

In reference to the Melting Charge on Re-Deposits, we only melt when necessary to do so. It is our custom to make one melt of all the smaller bars of an invoice, and charge for same according to the regulations. (At times the entire invoice is made into one melt).

If thought advisable, we could make ^{groups} a melting charge covering each individual number or bar in a melt, and thus avoid the accumulation of charges at the Assay offices.

It is our practice to melt all deposits received from private individuals.

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, 1888

or firms, for the reason that we are never sure that the bullion has been properly melted, and of a thoroughly uniform composition.

Of course the exception to this rule being the large silver purchases, presumably fine silver; though at times we melt this bullion (and impose a charge), if we have any reason to doubt the uniformity of the fineness of the bars.

Re deposits we do not melt for the purpose of assay, as we have confidence in the Melting as done at the Assay Office.

Very Respectfully

Jacob B. Eckfeldt
Assayer

Hon Daniel M. Fox
Superintendent

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,

ASSAY DEPARTMENT,

Sept 21. , 1888.

Jacob B. Eckfeldt
Assayer.

Relative to Letter of 15th
Inst, calling attention to
errors in charges imposed
upon Gold Deposits

No. of Enclosures,



[Abstract:] Relative to Letter of 15th inst., calling attention to errors in charges imposed upon Gold Deposits.

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa.,
Assay Department,
September 21, 1888

Sir

Referring to the letter of the Director of the Mint of the 15th inst., in which reference is made to errors in charges imposed on gold deposits. I would say that in regard to deposit No. 501 – Assay 587, the charge imposed was 3 cents ~~and~~ for the reason that there was not over 100 parts of base metal. The actual fineness being gold 686.8, bare metal 100, Silver 213.2. As it is not customary to report to the half thousandth the silver contained in gold, the half was dropped, and the silver reported at 213 & Gold 686 ½ “Deposit No. 505 Assay No. 643” is an error, it should be Deposit 545 Assay 643 the charge of which should be three cents per ounce, as stated in the letter. In reference to the Melting charge on Re-Deposits, we only melt when necessary to do so. It is our custom to make one melt of all the smaller bars of an invoice, and charge for same according to the regulation. (At times the entire invoice is made into one melt.)

If thought advisable, we could make a gross melting charge covering each individual number or bar in a melt, and thus avoid the accumulation of charges at the Assay offices.

It is our practice to melt all deposits received from private individuality or firms, for the reason that we are never sure that the bullion has been properly melted, and of a thoroughly uniform composition.

Of course the exception to this rule being the large silver purchases, presumably fine silver; though at times we melt this bullion (and impose a charge), if we have any reason to doubt the uniformity of the fineness of the bars.

Re deposits we do not melt for the purpose of assay, as we have confidence in the Melting as done at the Assay Offices.

Very Respectfully,
Jacob B. Eckfeldt
Assayer

Hon. Daniel M. Fox
Superintendent